

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) An image pickup system comprising:
a camera; and
an external apparatus, the camera and the external apparatus being connected to each other via a two-way communication line, wherein
the camera comprises:
a camera operator capable of setting at least a photographing condition; and
a camera communicator configured to allow the camera to photograph based on one of a photographing condition set through the camera operator and a photographing condition received from the external apparatus and transmitting image data obtained by photographing to the external apparatus, and
the external apparatus comprising:
an external apparatus operator capable of setting at least the photographing condition of the camera;
a display unit capable of displaying a set state of the photographing

condition;

an external apparatus communicator configured to transmit the photographing condition to the camera and receive image data from the camera;

a selector configured to select between a first photographing mode in which the camera serves as a master to photograph and a second photographing mode in which the external apparatus serves as the master and controls the camera to photograph; and

a controller configured to set the second photographing mode just after a start of camera control through the external apparatus, read photographing information set in the camera into the external apparatus, and, set the first or second photographing mode in accordance with the selection by the selector.

2. (Previously presented) The photographing system according to Claim 1, wherein when a picture is taken in the first photographing mode, the camera communicator transmits obtained image data to the external apparatus each time a picture is taken.

3. (Previously presented) The photographing system according to Claim 1, wherein

the external apparatus operator is capable of being configured to set a

plurality of the photographing conditions of the camera, and

when the controller sets the second photographing mode, each time one of said photographing conditions is set through the external apparatus operator, the controller allows the camera to: photograph based on the photographing conditions including the set photographing condition; receive obtained image data; and control the display unit to display the image data.

4. (Currently amended) An image pickup system comprising:
an external apparatus comprising an external apparatus operator configured to set a plurality of photographing conditions related to a camera, and a display unit configured for displaying respective set states of the photographing conditions; and

said camera having a camera operator capable of setting at least the photographing conditions, the camera being capable of photographing based on one of the photographing conditions set through the camera operator and the photographing condition received from the external apparatus and transmitting image data obtained by photographing to the external apparatus, wherein

in photographing based on the photographing conditions set through the external apparatus operator, each time one photographing condition is set by the external apparatus operator, a picture is automatically taken by the camera based

on the photographing conditions including the set photographing condition, image data obtained is transmitted from the camera to the external apparatus, and the image data is displayed through the display unit.

5. (Previously presented) A camera constructed so as to be connected to an external apparatus through a two-way communication line, the camera comprising:

a camera operator capable of setting at least a photographing condition;
a camera communicator configured to allow the camera to photograph based on one of a photographing condition set by the camera operator and a photographing condition received from the external apparatus and transmitting image data obtained by photographing to the external apparatus, wherein just after the start of camera control through the external apparatus, when a selection between a first photographing mode, in which the camera serves as a master to photograph, and a second photographing mode, in which the external apparatus serves as a master and controls the camera to photograph, is performed under the control of the external apparatus to set the second photographing mode, photographing information set in the camera is transmitted to the external apparatus in response to a request sent from the external apparatus, and, a picture is taken in one of the first photographing mode and the second photographing mode

under control of the external apparatus.

6. (Previously presented) The camera according to Claim 5, wherein in the first photographing mode, the camera communicator transmits obtained image data to the external apparatus each time a picture is taken.

7. (Previously presented) The camera according to Claim 5, wherein the camera is capable of receiving a plurality of photographing conditions from the external apparatus, and

in the second photographing mode, each time one of said photographing conditions is received from the external apparatus, a picture is taken based on photographing conditions including the received photographing condition, and obtained image data is transmitted to the external apparatus.

8. (Previously presented) A camera constructed so as to be communicably connected to an external apparatus, the camera comprising:

a camera operator configured for setting at least a photographing condition; and

a camera communicator configured for allowing the camera to photograph based on one of a photographing condition set through the camera operator and a

Applicant: Oura et al.
Application No.: 10/725,230

photographing condition received from the external apparatus and transmitting image data obtained by photographing to the external apparatus, wherein

in photographing based on the photographing condition received from the external apparatus, each time one photographing condition is received from the external apparatus, a picture is taken based on the received photographing condition, and image data obtained by photographing is transmitted to the external apparatus.

9. (Previously presented) An external apparatus configured to be connected to a camera through a two-way communication line, the external apparatus comprising:

an external apparatus operator capable of setting at least a photographing condition of the camera;

a display unit capable of displaying a set state of the photographing condition;

an external apparatus communicator for transmitting the photographing condition and receiving image data from the camera;

a selector of said external apparatus for selecting between a first photographing mode in which the camera serves as a master to photograph and a second photographing mode in which the external apparatus serves as the master

and controls the camera to photograph; and

a controller configured to: set the second photographing mode just after a start of camera control through the external apparatus, read photographing information set in the camera, and, set the first or second photographing mode in accordance with the selection by the selector.

10. (Previously presented) The external apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein in the first photographing mode, the external apparatus communicator receives image data obtained by photographing from the camera each time a picture is taken.

11. (Previously presented) The external apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein

the external apparatus operator is configured for setting a plurality of photographing conditions of the camera, and

when the controller sets the second photographing mode, each time one photographing condition is set through the external apparatus, the controller enables the camera to: photograph based on the photographing conditions including the set photographing condition, receive image data obtained by photographing, and control the display unit to display the image data.

12. (Previously presented) The external apparatus according to Claim 9, further comprising:

a storage device configured to store image data received through the external apparatus communicator.

13. (Currently amended) An external apparatus configured to be communicably connected to a camera, the apparatus comprising:

an external apparatus operator configured for setting a plurality of photographing conditions related to the camera; and

a display unit capable of displaying respective set states of the photographing conditions, wherein

when a picture is taken through the camera based on the photographing conditions set through the external apparatus operator, each time one photographing condition is set by the external apparatus operator, a picture is automatically taken by the camera based on photographing conditions including the set photographing condition, image data obtained by photographing is received, and the received image data is displayed by the display unit.

Claims 14-17 (Cancelled)

18. (Previously presented) An image pickup method for photographing using a camera and an external apparatus, the camera being connected to the external apparatus through a two-way communication line, the method comprising:

setting an external photographing mode in which the external apparatus serves as a master and controls the camera to photograph just after the start of camera control through the external apparatus;

transmitting photographing information, set in the camera, from the camera to the external apparatus through the communication line;

displaying at least a photographing condition received in the photographing information of the camera through a display of the external apparatus;

setting the photographing condition of the camera through one of a camera operator of the camera and an external apparatus operator of the external apparatus;

selectively setting one of a camera photographing mode in which the camera serves as a master to photograph and an external photographing mode through the external apparatus;

taking a picture in the selected photographing mode to obtain an image, based on the set photographing condition;

transmitting the obtained image from the camera to the external apparatus;

and

displaying the image received by said external apparatus on the display.

19. (Previously presented) The image pickup method according to Claim 18, further comprising:

transmitting a set photographing condition to the camera each time a photographing condition is set when the photographing condition is set by the external apparatus operator in the step of setting the photographing condition of the camera through one of the camera operator of the camera and the external apparatus operator of the external apparatus;

photographing by the camera based on the transmitted photographing condition;

transmitting image data obtained by photographing from the camera to the external apparatus; and

previewing the image data received by said external apparatus through the display unit.